

# DRAFT

## Hood Canal Coordinating Council A Vision for Hood Canal: Hood Canal Integrated Watershed Plan

### Vision Statement and Desired Future Conditions January 13, 2010

The HCCC's vision for the Hood Canal watershed is a future condition in which ecosystem processes, functions and structures are protected and restored while at the same time providing a high quality of life for a sustainable level of future population growth.

Desired future conditions for specific features of the watershed are as follows:

**Human Health** – Human health is improved, not diminished, by Hood Canal's air, land and water quality. Fresh and marine waters are safe for human use, including fish and shellfish consumption.

**Human Wellbeing** – Humans benefit from and coexist sustainably with the natural environment. Modest population increases are planned and managed within urban areas and, to a limited extent, in rural areas. Economic development continues sustainably so that residents and visitors alike can enjoy access to commercial and other services within local communities and transportation needs are limited. Employment opportunities and infrastructure exist to provide family wage jobs for present and future generations. Cultural traditions and resources are respected and preserved. Recreation and resource-related industries continue in a sustainable manner and provide a primary source of employment.

**Species and Food Web** -- Commercial and game species of fish, shellfish and wildlife exist in harvestable numbers, and coexist with abundant populations of nongame species. Abundant populations of forage fish provide adequate food supplies for dependent species. There are no listed species, and currently listed species are recovered, not extirpated. The genetic and species diversity of Hood Canal's ecosystem is protected and enhanced, retaining its complexity and resiliency.

**Habitats** -- The watershed provides a diverse array of highly functional freshwater, marine and terrestrial habitats that will sustain the desired biological abundance and diversity while allowing resilience and adaptation to disturbances such as climate change.

**Water Quantity** -- Water quantity and water uses are sustainably and equitably managed. Natural hydrologic patterns have been restored and maintained in a normative condition.

**Water Quality** -- Fresh and marine waters support healthy populations of birds and marine mammals, fish and shellfish. There are no listed water bodies, and currently listed water bodies are recovered. Water quality supports human health and well-being.